SENATOR A. P. GORMAN

A MAN WHO IS AMONG PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

Walter Wellman Says That He Has All His Life Been a Leader, Even in the Days of Boyish Sports and Enterprises.

Correspondence of THE REPUBLICAN.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—A good deal of a presidential possibility is Senator Gorman, of Maryland. You have all been to the races, and noticed the horse who stands quietly near the fence, cool-

ARTHUR PUE GORMAN.

ly watching his companions frisk and jump about while waiting for the word. You have noticed also how often this quiet, steady, unassuming animal gets a good start in the race when the race is really on, and how frequently he comes at the head of the bunch to the wire.

Gorman is just that sort of a racer. As a presidential candidate he makes no noise, writes no letters, indulges in no speech making. But that he is carefully watching every possible competitor, that he sees and understands every movement of the great game, is obvious to all who know and observe the senator from Maryland. In all America there is no more shrewd, adroit public man.

The life story of this man who has come up to party leadership in the national capital and to promising presidential possibilities, is an interesting, though somewhat uneventful, one. He is of Scotch-Irish stock, from that sturdy race of Presbyterians of the north of Ireland. A little more than a century ago his grandfather, John Gorman, came to this country and settled at Harrisburg. John Gorman was a cattle trader, and eventually took up his residence in Baltimore.

There was born Peter Gorman, the father of the senator, a self reliant, hard headed man, with all the vigorous characteristics of his race. He helped build the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and was one of the contractors who undertook the construction of the first section of that pioneer line. Arthur Pue was one of three sons born to Peter and his wife, the latter being of the well known Brown family of Anne Arundel county. Peter Gorman was active in politics and public affairs, attended national and other conventions as delegate, but never became a candidate for office. He was a warm admirer of Stephen A. Douglas, and a "Douglas Democrat."

When Arthur was thirteen years old his father secured his appointment as a page in the house of representatives.

GORMAN THE PAGE.

He did not remain there long, for in the Capitol he soon won the esteem of his father's friend, "The Little Giant," who had the boy transferred to the senate. That was in 1852, and thus, forty years ago, he who is now the leader of the Democratic side of the senate entered that chamber as a waiting lad. He made his way there, of course. Old Captain Bassett, who has governed the pages for about half a century, says Arthur Gorman was a model boy. The only fault he could find with him was that he quickly made himself the leader of the pages and had more influence over them than Captain Bassett himself.

From page, Arthur was promoted to be messenger, and then assistant doorkeeper and finally postmaster of the senate. His intimacy with Douglas continued. It was at the feet of "The Little Giant" that he learned his first lessons in statesmanship. He acted for some time as Douglas' private secretary, and lived in the senator's family. When Douglas went out to Illinois to have his great debate with Lincoln, young Gorman accompanied him. He naturally became imbued with the spirit of his chief, and on his return to his duties in the senate engaged in his first legislative battle. It was the fight over the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and the Douglas Democrats depended upon Gorman as their "whip" to manage the voting strength of the friends of the bill, and by alertness, physical endurance, tact and caution to defeat the filibustering tactics of the opposition.

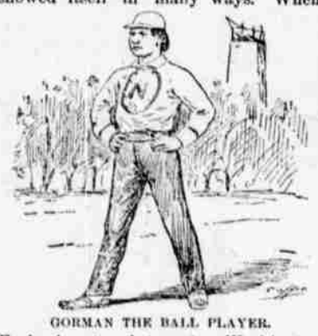
In this school of politics and statesmanship the young man proved himself an apt pupil. It is not surprising, since he was educated in the senate, that he became an adept in the practical side of public life. He was early taught to sit in the chamber not as a dreamer but as one who was expected to work and bring results. That lesson he has never forgotten. The page who acted as "whip" for the Douglas Democrats in the memorable Kansas-Nebraska struggle became the senatorial leader who directed the opposition to the federal election bill in the equally memorable conflict which took place in the last congress.

Much of his prominence and popularity Senator Gorman owes to his success in that struggle. Whether or not the so called "force bill" should have been passed is no business of ours; but for the tact, the skill, the untiring diplomacy and masterful leadership displayed by Gorman in that battle, Republicans and Democrats alike express the highest admiration. His party was in minority and yet it carried the day. Senators on his own side became jealous and balky, and gave the leader almost as much trouble as the enemy.

Yet Gorman never lost his temper; that placid face was never ruffled with a frown. "My dear senator," he would say to one of his Democratic colleagues, who was disposed to balk on him, "I hear you have been looking up such and such a question. It is a good point and it ought to be elaborated. Don't let any one else do it; do it yourself. You are the only man who can show it up as it deserves to be. Make one of your great speeches and it will help the cause immeasurably."

Of course the senator who was thus appealed to forgot his envy, left off his balking and made the great speech. This is how Gorman kept his own men in line, and up to the high pitch of combativeness required by the nature of the struggle. How he managed the other side, his friends, the Republicans, without whose help he could not win, is secret history. But the upshot of it all was success, an honorable success, and throughout all Dixie there is not a Democrat on whose tongue the name of Gorman is not spoken with affection and gratitude.

To go back to the early days, young Gorman held his postmastership of the senate all through the war, though the senate soon became Republican. His natural gravitation toward leadership showed itself in many ways. When



GORMAN THE BALL PLAYER.

Early threatened to enter Washington the employees of the Capitol organized a military company for the defense of that edifice. Gorman was made captain and in this role had the pleasure of going up to the top of the old dome of the Capitol, spyglass in hand, to reconnoiter.

The committee on conduct of the war wanted a shrewd, active, trustworthy young man to hunt up information for them, and Gorman filled the bill. On one occasion he was sent to General Grant's headquarters near Petersburg and witnessed the great mine explosion which occurred before that city.

About 1863 a baseball craze ran over the country. In Washington was organized the National club, which soon became famous. It used to play in the lot in the rear of the White House, near the then half finished Washington monument. There was no grand stand, but chairs were brought out from the treasury, the war and state departments and the executive mansion, and placed on the sward. The president, cabinet senators and congressmen witnessed the games, and enthusiasm ran high.

Among the best of the players, one who was "all round," though he generally played right field, was Arthur Gorman. He became captain of the club, and when the Nationals started off on a triumphant tour of the country Gorman was their general manager. They whipped every club that opposed them, and their progress through the country was the occasion of an ovation. Not until they reached Chicago were they compelled to lower their banner in defeat. There they were beaten by an unknown club of country boys from Rockford, Ills., whose pitcher was A. G. Spalding, soon afterward a great professional player, and now one of the biggest baseball men in the country.

Young Gorman was finally ousted from the postmastership of the senate, though against the protest of Ben Wade and other Republicans. He was then active in the organization of the Conservative party in Maryland—an outgrowth of Douglas Democracy—and Republican senators secured his appointment as internal revenue collector in Baltimore. For fourteen years he was active in state politics. He served in the legislature, both branches, was speaker of the house, became president of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, and in 1880 was elected to the United States senate. He has since been twice re-elected, and is now in the very comfortable position of having a seat in the senate assured him till the close of this century. A year hence, if he be not elected president, he will enter his third term in the senate, which does not expire till March 3, 1899.

GORMAN THE PRIVATE SECRETARY.

WALTER WELLMAN.

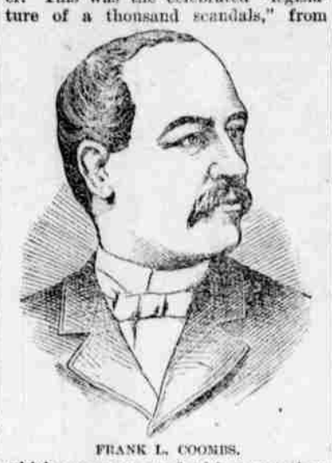
THE NEW MINISTER TO JAPAN.

He Is a Californian and So Was His Chief Competitor.

President Harrison's appointment of Frank L. Coombs as minister to Japan to succeed the late John F. Swift is believed by close observers to be a concession to the apparently valid claim that the people of the Pacific coast are more in touch with the affairs of China and Japan than are the residents of the eastern states.

The new minister is a representative of the younger school of politicians. He was born thirty-eight years ago in Napa, California, and has always made that place his home. Napa, by the way, is also the home of the Hon. M. M. Estee. He was educated in the public schools, and his record as a pupil was highly creditable. Long before most boys begin to think of their future career, young Coombs had decided that he would be a lawyer. As a means to that end he went to New York and entered the law department of Columbia college, whence he was graduated with honor in due season.

He immediately began to practice in Napa, and displayed much ability. When only twenty-five years of age he was elected to the office of district attorney, and upon the expiration of his term was chosen to succeed himself. Finding that official duties were seriously interfering with his practice he temporarily retired from public life. But his neighbors wanted his services, and so in 1886 they sent him to the legislature. He was returned in 1888 and again in 1890, in which latter year he was chosen speaker. This was the celebrated "legislature of a thousand scandals," from



FRANK L. COOMBS.

which many emerged with reputations bedraggled in the dust of jobbery. But there was no imputation made against Mr. Coombs' personal integrity.

In 1890 he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. He has acquired a competency, and, like many men comfortably provided with the good things of this world, has a hobby. He loves horses, and owns several speedy ones which have made records on the state tracks. He also holds important positions in several racing associations.

Mr. Coombs is a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, and is at present a grand trustee of the order.

Before his appointment was actually announced it was believed by a great many persons that another of California's sons, Major George H. Bonebrake, would be selected by President Harrison for the post of minister to Japan. Major Bonebrake, who is now a resident of Los Angeles, is an Ohio man, having been born in Eaton, Preble county, that state, about fifty-four years ago. Since 1878 he has been active in Republican politics on the Pacific coast. He is a scholar as well as a financier, and after leaving college in Ohio he taught languages in an educational institution. He is a thorough master of Latin, Greek, German and French. When he ceased to be a pedagogue he studied law under General Thomas Brown, with whom he afterward formed a copartnership.

He went into the army in 1862 as a private in Company C, Sixty-ninth Indiana infantry, rising by degrees until

MAJOR BONEBRAKE.

he had attained the rank of major, and was finally brevetted lieutenant colonel. In 1869 he had his first banking experience as a cashier in a Noblesville (Ind.) bank. Now he is president of the Los Angeles National bank, and is a director of seven other southern California banks and of the California Central railroad. Fine buildings in Los Angeles are monuments to his enterprise, and he is known in all California as a shrewd business man.

A Cup of Chocolate.

The most delicious cup of chocolate ever drunk was served at a luncheon the other day. The receipt for the mixture, which the hostess said was of Mexican origin, is four small squares of sweet chocolate heated until soft over a teakettle or saucepan. Add a quart of milk to the chocolate and stir it smooth; then while it is heating break three eggs and separate the whites and yolks.

Cream the yolks, froth the whites, and when the chocolate boils set the pot in a cool place, mix half a cupful of it with the yolks of the eggs, and when well mixed beat them rapidly with the remainder of the chocolate. Stir in the whites of the eggs as quickly and serve at once. The eggs must be added before the chocolate has time to cool, and must on no account be boiled after they are stirred in. Serve with salty, unsweetened wafers.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Explode, Then Cry.

So when that evil inclination leads you into a temper, don't let it be that silent kind which declines to say anything but just looks, nor pretend you are a saint and yet show by every action that you are displeased. This is the kind of anger that drives a man into a fit of frenzy, makes him feel like pulling you and beating you until you say something. It is the kind that drives him out of the home to the club. And all the time you sit at home with a martyr's smile and think you are a saint. Now, my dear woman, do not get such an idea. You are far from saintly, and I think St. Peter will welcome with open arms any one who had to live with you.—Philadelphia Music and Drama.

Mrs. Hunt's Mission.

Mrs. Mary H. Hunt has gone to the maritime provinces—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward's Island,—where the legislatures are now in session, to present to these bodies the question of temperance education laws in behalf of the children of that American extension of the British empire. Mrs. Hunt goes in response to an earnest appeal from the ladies of the W. C. T. U. in that country.—Boston Common-

Mrs. Smith Is Determined.

Mrs. Annie Smith has retired from the editorship of the North Danville (Va.) Enterprise, and will remove to Richmond to become editor in chief of a southern magazine. Mrs. Smith is still pressing her application for admission to the Virginia bar.